

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following listing of claims:

1. (**currently amended**) A coffin (10) having a base portion comprising a plurality of base panels (14), each base panel (14) being connected to the or each adjacent base panel (14) by a joint (16) such that each base panel (14) is foldable onto an adjacent base panel (14); and a plurality of side panels (18) each connected to the base portion (12) by a joint (20) such that each side panel (18) is foldable onto an adjacent base panel (14); a lid (33); and a plurality of first clips (38) for securing the lid with respect to the side panels (18), wherein, when the coffin adopts an assembled state, the lid (33) extends between the side panels, the lid and the clips together supporting the side panels (18) to maintain the coffin in the assembled state.

2. (**original**) A coffin (10) as claimed in Claim 1 , wherein the base panels (14) are connected end to end as a linear series of adjacent panels (14).

3. (**currently amended**) A coffin (10) as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein each base panel (14) has a first side panel (18) foldably connected to a first edge (14a) thereof.

4. (**original**) A coffin (10) as claimed in Claim 3, wherein each base panel (14) has a second side panel (18) foldably connected to a second edge (14b) thereof opposed to the first edge (14a).

5. (**currently amended**) A coffin (10) as claimed in any preceding claim Claim 1, wherein each side panel (18) is connected to the or each adjacent side panel (18) by a joint (22).

6. (**original**) A coffin (10) as claimed in Claim 5, wherein each side panel (18) is associated with a particular base panel (14) and the joint (22) between any pair of adjacent side panels (18) and the joint (16) between the associated pair of base panels (14) are substantially in register with one another.

7. (**currently amended**) A coffin (10) as claimed in any preceding claim Claim 1,

wherein the joints (20) between the side panels (18) and the base panels (14) along one side of the base portion (12) are substantially in register with one another and are substantially perpendicular to the joints (16) between adjacent base panels (14).

8. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the base panels (14) and side panels (18) are substantially rectangular in shape.

9. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 2, wherein the coffin (10) further comprises an end panel (24) connected to one of the endmost base panels (14) by a joint (26).

10. **(original)** A coffin (10) as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the coffin (10) comprises an end panel (24) connected to each of the endmost base panels (14) by a joint (26).

11. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the joints (16, 20, 22, 26) are flexible joints.

12. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the panels (14, 18, 24) are formed from plastics, wood, cardboard or metal.

13. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the side panels (18) and base panels (14) are included in a foldable continuous blank of material in which said joints (16, 20, 22) are provided as fold lines, weakened lines or grooves.

14. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein one base panel (14) and associated side panels (18) are included in a foldable continuous blank of material in which said joints (20) are provided as fold lines, weakened lines or grooves.

15. **(original)** A coffin (10) as claimed in Claim 14, wherein a plurality of said foldable continuous blanks are provided each connected to one or more adjacent foldable continuous blanks by respective joints.

16. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any of claims 13 to 15~~ Claim 13, wherein the foldable continuous blank of material is formed from plastic.

17. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~Claim 11 or 12~~, wherein the joints (16, 20, 22, 26) are formed from one or more pieces of natural or synthetic fabric (woven or non-woven), mesh or webbing, with said fabric, mesh or webbing preferably formed from nylon, polypropylene or a mixture thereof.

18. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the base panels (14) are foldable onto one another in a concertina-like manner.

19. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in Claim 18, wherein ~~after~~ when the side panels (18) and the end panels (24) ~~have been~~ are folded onto the base panels (14), the base panels (14) are foldable onto one another in a concertina-like manner.

20. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, further comprising a lid (33) adapted to fit the coffin (10) to maintain first and second side walls (30, 32) formed by the side panels (18) in use, in position relative to one another in the assembled configuration.

21. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in claim 20, wherein the lid (33) includes a plurality of lid panels (34), each lid panel (34) being connected to the or each adjacent lid panel (34) by a foldable joint (35).

22. **(currently amended)** A coffin (10) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the base panels (14), side panels (18), and end panels (24) if present, are attached to a sheet of flexible material such that ~~neighbouring~~ neighboring panels (14, 18, 24) are sufficiently spaced apart so that the material between panels provides said joints (16, 20, 22, 26).

23. **(original)** A coffin (10) as claimed in claim 22, wherein the sheet of material is suitably sized and dimensioned to form a lid for the coffin (10) in the assembled configuration.

24. to 36. (cancelled)

37. (new) A coffin as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each of said first clips is fixed to the lid and is shaped to define a seat for receiving one of said side panels.

38. (new) A coffin as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each of said first clips is substantially L-shaped.

39. (new) A coffin as claimed in Claim 3, wherein each of said first clips is fixed to the lid and is shaped to define a seat for receiving one of said side panels, and wherein each of said first clips includes a first portion and a second portion connected together to form an L-shape, the first portion being fixed to an in-use outer surface of said lid and projecting beyond said outer surface, the second portion extending substantially perpendicularly to said outer surface and defining said seat between said second portion and said lid.

40. (new) A coffin as claimed in Claim 1, further including a respective end panel at either end of the coffin, and at least one second clip for securing a respective end panel with respect to its adjacent side panels, wherein, when the coffin adopts an assembled state, each end panel extends between the side panels, the end panels and the respective second clips together supporting the side panels to maintain the coffin in the assembled state.

41. (new) A coffin as claimed in Claim 40, wherein each of said second clips is fixed to the respective end panel and is shaped to define a seat for receiving one of said side panels.

42. (new) A coffin as claimed in Claim 40, wherein each of said second clips is substantially L-shaped.

43. (new) A coffin as claimed in Claim 42, wherein each of said second clips is fixed to the respective end panel and is shaped to define a seat for receiving one of said side panels and wherein each of said second clips includes a first portion and a second portion connected together to form an L-shape, the first portion being fixed to an in-use outer surface of said

respective end panel and projecting beyond said outer surface, the second portion extending substantially perpendicularly to said outer surface and defining said seat between said second portion and said respective end panel.

44. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 21, wherein said lid is foldable in a concertina-like manner.

45. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 1, further including a removable insert layer shaped and dimensioned to support a body during use.

46. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 45, wherein the insert layer includes a plurality of handles along its edges.

47. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 45, wherein the insert layer comprises a series of inter-connected, foldable panels.

48. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 47, wherein the insert layer includes a respective joint between adjacent panels and is configured such that, when disposed against the base panels during use, the joints of the insert layer are staggered with respect to the joints between the base panels.

49. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in anyone of Claims 45 to 47, wherein said insert layers is releasably attachable to said coffin.

50. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 1, further including a substantially cuboid cover adapted to fit over the coffin.

51. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 50, wherein said cover is adapted to fit over said coffin when in the storage configuration.

52. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 50, wherein said cover is shaped and dimensioned to fit said coffin in said in-use configuration.

53. **(new)** A coffin as claimed in Claim 50, wherein the cover includes folds of material along its length so that, when said folds are folded, the cover fits the coffin in said storage configuration, and when the said folds are unfolded, the cover fits the coffin in said in-use configuration.